The FILLING of the HOLY SPIRIT

Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, PA

Sunday, March 6th, AD 2022

The LORD'S Day

The Sixth Day of March, *in the Year of our Lord* 2022

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!

Sunday School—9:30 AM.

As we continue to study the issue of "God & Government," we focus upon a most precious commodity: our freedom to worship God in accordance with the dictates of Scripture and our conciences!

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:* *"Where the Spirit of the Lord Is"* (#89).

Invocation.*

Hymn: *"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"* (#11).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Eph. 5:18-21.

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Hymn: *"Just When I Need Him Most"* (#253).

Announcemnts.

Hymn: *"The Comforter Has Come."* (#90).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *"A MATTER OF CONTROL."*

Closing Hymn:* *"Take Time to be Holy"* (#415).

Benediction.*

**The Congregation will please arise, if able.*

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Downloadable audio mp3 messages at archive.org (@reesetpje)
Also check out our YouTube Channel (search *"Terry Reese"*)!
Camp Mantowagan website: *https://www.campmantowagan.com*

Today's Verses for Reflection:

"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."
—Galatians 5:16 (NJKV)

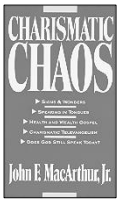
Week of Feb. 27-March 5
Sunday School—8; Morning Worship—18
Midweek—5; Church Offering: $1,235.00

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study—6:30 PM.

The Fall of the King of Babylon in chapter 4 from glory unto a beastly state is a symbolic recapitulation of Adam's Fall from a genuine (but unconfirmed) holy state unto a state of Total Depravity. But God has the power to intervene, rescue, and regenerate our hearts, if He so wills!

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Here are some excellent books from our Church Library!



Charismatic Chaos by Dr. John MacArthur deals with many of the errors regarding the Holy Spirit in the modern church. This powerful and uncompromising book is not afraid to take on the "big names!" Dr. MacArthur is truly one of the giants of our era, and is always worth reading.

"Now, That's a Good Question!" by R.C. Sproul answers more than 300 challenging questions about life and faith, addressing both doctrinal and contemporary issues in a personable, easy-to-read style that's perfect for the lay person. On a personal note, Dr. Sproul was an author that made a HUGE impact on my personal walk as young believer—particularly as I attempted to understand Biblical truths relating to human freedom and & Divine Sovereignty in Election.

UNDER CONTROL: THE FILLING OF THE SPIRIT

Pastor Terry Reese, Valley GBC, 3/6/22

Unlike the **Indwelling** of the Holy Spirit, which is both a permanent and universal ministry of the Spirit unto all believers, the **Filling of the Spirit** is a *conditional*—and thus, *repeatable*—ministry of the Holy Spirit. A classic passage regarding this Doctrine is found in Eph. 5:18:

> ***Eph. 5:18*: "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit…"**

In contrast to the drunkard, who is under the wild and deranging influence of Bacchus, the Christian is called to be a person who is under the ***control***, ***domination***, and ***extensive influence*** of the Holy Spirit. Being under the Spirit's CONTROL is the central concept with regard to the Filling of the Spirit.

In that the Filling is something *commanded*, and only *some* are referred to as being "full" of the Spirit (Acts 6:3), the Filling of the Spirit is clearly a *conditional benefit* of the Spirit that requires *repetition*, owing to various circumstances:

1.) a newly required need for a special empowerment for effective ministry (Acts 2:4, 4:8); *or*,

2.) because of intervening episodes of sin & backsliding in the believer's life, in which one is found walking in the flesh as opposed to the Spirit (Rom. 8:5-6, Eph. 4:30). We are commanded to *"…walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh* (Gal. 5:16)."

The resulting *fruit* of the Spirit's control is found in Gal. 5:22-24 and in the *godly characteristics* enumerated in Eph 5:19-21 (*praise, worship, & thanksgiving*, as well as in *submissiveness* with regard to our personal relationships; cf. Col 3:12-17). *Non-conformity* to the World (Rom. 12:1-2) will also be exhibited.

The Filling of the Spirit is thus required with reference to the progress of Christian maturity (I Cor. 3:1-3), and for effective Christian service. The latter point is well illustrated in the example of the Apostolic Church:

> ***Acts 4:31:* And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.**